



## **All Souls Unitarian Universalist Congregation**

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Reverend Carolyn Patierno, Minister

*Mission Statement: All Souls Unitarian Universalist Congregation is a liberal religious congregation that nurtures lifelong spiritual development. We covenant to create a welcoming, caring, justice-seeking community within and beyond these walls.*

March 20, 2011

To: Members of the Judiciary Committee

RE: Transgender Civil Rights bill has a number - HB 6599, "An Act Concerning Discrimination"

I write in support of the above named bill. Unitarian Universalism's first principle is a commitment to honor the inherent worth and dignity of all people. Passage of this bill is in keeping with our most valued principle.

Living in harmony with one's gender identity is a most crucial form of self-respect and integrity. The courage exhibited by transgendered individuals cannot be overstated. Their courage must be met with the wider society's commitment to equality and justice for all.

I hope that you will support this bill so that all your constituents will be free from discrimination in all aspects of their lives.

Sincerely,

Reverend Carolyn Patierno